REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, the specification is amended, claims 1-13 are amended and claim 18 is added. Claims 1-18 are pending. An Abstract [corresponding to that of the published PCT application corresponding to this application] is attached on a separate sheet. No new matter is added.

Entry of the above-amendment is respectfully requested prior to examination of the application. The enclosed English translation of the application corresponds to the application originally filed in Japanese. The above amendment revises the application as translated into English to be in a format more closely corresponding to that customarily employed in U.S. practice and to eliminate multiple dependent claims and correct some typographical and grammatical errors in the specification and claims. Support for new claim 18 can be found in Figs. 4A and 4B. Thus, no new matter has been introduced.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in good form for initial examination on the merits. Accordingly, prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for initial examination and allowance, the

National Stage of PCT/2003/016673 Attorney Docket No. O1044/20013 Preliminary Amendment Dated March 3, 2005

Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN, COHEN & POKOTILOW, LTD.

March 3, 2005

Please charge or credit our Account No. 03-0075 as necessary to effect entry and/or ensure consideration of this submission.

Barry A. ∕∕steip∕

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